

**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES  
DIVISION OF ANIMAL AND FOOD INDUSTRY SERVICES  
STATE VETERINARIAN'S OFFICE  
P. O. BOX 1163  
RICHMOND, VA 23218**

**CONTAGIOUS EQUINE METRITIS PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, contagious equine metritis (CEM) is a venereally transmitted infectious bacterial disease that affects horses; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) considers CEM to be a foreign animal disease; and

WHEREAS, CEM exists in other nations, and the transporting of infected animals from these nations could spread that disease among susceptible domestic animals in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, there are reasonable restrictions that the State Veterinarian can impose in order to prevent CEM from entering the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the State Veterinarian has authority to initiate such measures as necessary to protect all segments of the livestock industries against contagious and infectious diseases.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority of Title 3.2, Chapter 60 of the Code of Virginia, §§ 3.2-6001, 3.2-6002, 3.2-6003, 3.2-6004, 3.2-6008, 3.2-6010, and 3.2-6011, I am hereby, effective this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2010, placing an interstate/international quarantine order with respect to CEM, incorporating the foregoing recitals into this order. This order establishes the following restrictions and conditions:

1. No horses may enter the Commonwealth of Virginia which are known to be positive by bacterial culture for CEM;
2. All mares and stallions over 731 days of age entering the Commonwealth of Virginia with intent to reside there from either a foreign country in which CEM is known to exist or a country that freely engages in equine trade with a foreign country in which CEM is known to exist are subject to required quarantine, testing, and treatment at a pre-approved quarantine facility in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Quarantine, testing, and treatment requirements are defined in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 9, Part 93. All expenses associated with the required quarantine, testing, and treatment are to be paid by the owner, including fees payable to an accredited veterinarian for conducting the testing and treatment and to the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for overseeing the quarantine, testing, and treatment;
3. All horses identified above in condition number two are required to be permanently identified with a microchip in order to definitively document the identification of the horse that is quarantined, tested, and treated. If such microchip is implanted upon arrival at the quarantine facility, the microchip will be read and the identification number recorded. If the horse is not microchipped upon arrival at the quarantine facility, the horse's owner shall have a microchip implanted at the quarantine facility by the accredited veterinarian at the owner's expense; and
4. All regulations imposed by the USDA with regards to CEM are to be followed.

This proclamation shall remain in effect until rescinded by written notice from this office.



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Virginia Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
Division of Animal and Food Industry Services

Effective: June 15, 2010